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PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: 3-13-2006 / 9:30 a.m. **Update at 2:00 p.m.**
Date/Time of Occurrence: 3-11-2006 / 8:54 a.m.
Nature of Call: Murder/Suicide
Location of Call: Tahoe City
Case Number: SO 06-3469
Released by: Lt. John Addoms (530) 581-6315

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

****UPDATE****

Autopsies on the two decedents were conducted this morning. The deceased woman has been positively identified as Julie Ann Lacke, 41, of 443 Pioneer Way, Tahoe City. The exact cause of death will be pending toxicology reports. However, the pathologist found blunt force trauma on Ms. Lacke's face, head, and chest. The autopsy also showed internal bleeding. Positive identification of the human remains from the burned vehicle, investigators believe to be Ms. Lacke's boyfriend, will have to be made by DNA analysis and the results are not expected for at least several weeks. The boyfriend's name is being withheld pending positive identification and next of kin notification. Cause of death is also pending toxicology but is likely related to the fire.

Sheriff's deputies responded with North Tahoe Fire Department personnel to a vehicle fire that uncovered an apparent domestic violence murder/suicide involving a Tahoe City couple.

On Saturday, March 11, at about 9:00 a.m., human remains were found in the driver's seat of the car after the fully engulfed vehicle parked on Bunker Drive in Tahoe City was extinguished. After interviewing witnesses, deputies drove to the home of the registered owner, which is less than a mile from the vehicle fire. Deputies forced entry into the home and found the female resident dead, the victim of an apparent homicide.

The investigation is ongoing and facts are continuing to unfold. The preliminary investigation indicates that her boyfriend murdered the woman and he subsequently committed suicide by using gasoline to set his vehicle on fire while sitting in the vehicle.

Both autopsies are schedule to be conducted this morning to establish cause of death. Identification of the male will have to be made by forensic means.

**Copies of this press release are available on the Placer County Sheriff's
Department website at <http://www.placer.ca.gov/sheriff>**